

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 RANGOO 00801 01 OF 02 101220Z

11

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAJ-01 AID-05 SIL-01 LAB-04 IO-11 OMB-01

SNM-02 DEAE-00 IGA-02 CU-02 EUR-12 AGR-05 COME-00

TRSE-00 CIEP-01 /113 W

----- 070141

R 100945Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1122

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

CINCPAC HI

DEA BANGKOK UNN

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK UNN

AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI UNN

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU UNN

AMCONSUL MANDALAY UNN

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI UNN

USLO PEKING UNN

AMCONSUL UDORN UNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 RANGOON 0801

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT PFOR BM

SUBJ: JOINT WEEKA #10

1. DEFENSE MINISTER GENERAL TIN OO OUT (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

PRESS ANNOUNCED THAT THE RESIGNATION OF DEFENSE MINISTER AND ARMED
FORCES CHIEF OF STAFF GENERAL TIN OO HAD BEEN "ACCEPTED" BY THE
COUNCIL OF STATE EFFECTIVE MARCH 6; SUBSEQUENTLY HE ALSO RESIGNED
HIS SEAT FROM THE PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY. VICE CHIEF OF STAFF BRIGADIER
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 RANGOO 00801 01 OF 02 101220Z

KYAW HTIN NAMED CHIEF OF STAFF BUT DEFENSE MINISTRY PORTFOLIO GIVEN

TEMPORARILY TO PRIME MINISTER SEIN WIN.

COMMENT: SURPRISE DEPARTURE OF TIN OO HAS PROMPTED WIDESPREAD SPECULATION CENTERED ON THE LONG STANDING CONFLICT BETWEEN TIN OO AND BSPP SECRETARY GENERAL SAN YU WITH TIN OO'S REMOVAL WIDELY REGARDED AS A VICTORY, AT LEAST TEMPORARILY, FOR SAN YU. REASON FOR TIN OO'S DOWNFALL STILL UNCLEAR ALTHOUGH ALLEGATIONS OF SMUGGLING BY HIS WIFE MAY BE PART (BUT PROBABLY ONLY PART) OF THE STORY.

2. BSPP CENTRAL COMMITTEE (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

CENTRAL COMMITTEE HELD BRIEF MORNING MEETING MARCH 8 IN ANTICIPATION OF REGULAR PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY SESSION WHICH OPENS MARCH 10. PRESS AS USUAL CARRIES FEW DETAILS OF MEETING BUT NO RES PARTY DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE SUBMITTED DRAFT PROCEDURES ON MAINTENANCE OF PARTY DISCIPLINE WITHIN THE ARMED FORCES. COMMENT: IT WAS AT THIS SESSION THAT PARTY SECRETARY-GENERAL SAN YU ANNOUNCED THAT DEFENSE MINISTER TIN OO WAS RESIGNING FROM THE CABINET FOR "PERSONAL REASONS". HE REPORTEDLY ASKED THE MEMBERSHIP IF THERE WERE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE RESIGNATION BUT THE DOCTILE CC MEMBERS (INCLUDING A NUMBER OF TIN OO'S PERSONAL FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES) REMAINED SILENT.

3. HIGH LEVEL VISITORS (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

A SPECIAL GOODWILL MISSION FROM BANGLADESH HEADED BY REAR ADMIRAL MUSHARRAF HUSSAIN KHAN VISITED BURMA MARCH 4-7, CALLING ON PRESIDENT NE WIN AND BSPP SECRETARY-GENERAL SAN YU AS WELL AS VARIOUS MINISTERS. ACCORDING TO AN MFA SOURCE, PURPOSE OF VISIT WAS TO DISCUSS TERRITORIAL SEA BORDER DEMARCATION AND "OTHER BILATERAL ISSUES". LAOTIAN PRIME MINISTER KAYSONE PHOMVICHANE MADE ANOTHER OF HIS "LUNCH STOPS" AT RANGOON MARCH 6 ENROUTE FROM THE SOVIET UNION TO LAOS. PRIME MINISTER SEIN WIN DINED WITH HIM AT THE AIRPORT. (WEEK 8, ITEM 2).

4. BONUS SCHEME FOR BURMESE WORKERS (UNCLASSIFIED)

BEGINNING NEXT JULY, WORKERS IN STATE-RUN ENTERPRISES WILL BE GIVEN INCENTIVE BONUSES BASED ON THEIR PERFORMANCE DURING THE PAST FISCAL YEAR. THIS IS PART OF GUB ATTEMPT TO OPERATE SUCH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 RANGOO 00801 01 OF 02 101220Z

ENTERPRISES ON MORE COMMERCIAL BASIS. UNDER THE SCHEME A STATE CORPORATION CAN ESTABLISH A BONUS FUND IF IT FULFILLS ITS PRODUCTION TARGET AND RUNS ACCORDING TO THE GIVEN OPERATING RATIO. AS THIS WOULD EFFECTIVELY ELIMINATE MOST GUB CORPORATIONS THIS YEAR, "SOME RELAXATION" IS TO BE MADE IN THESE TWO ASPECTS TO "ENSURE AN ENCOURAGING START". THE BONUS FUND WOULD BE EQUAL TO 10 PERCENT OF A CORPORATION'S WAGE BILL AND WOULD BE DISTRIBUTED AT PRESCRIBED RATES THAT ARE HIGHER FOR LOW INCOME WORKERS

AND LOWER FOR HIGHER INCOME WORKERS.

COMMENT: AS WITH MOST GUB SCHEMES, DETAILS AND IMPLEMENTATION
PLANS ARE VERY HAZY, BUT QUITE LIKELY FOR THIS YEAR NEARLY ALL
WORKERS WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR SOME BONUS MONEY. THIS WILL REPRE-
SENT ANOTHER DEFACTO WAGE INCREASE FOR BURMA'S LOW INCOME WORKERS
WHO HAVE NOT RECEIVED AN ACTUAL PAY RAISE SINCE 1972, DESPITE
SEVERAL YEARS OF DOUBLE-DIGIT INFLATION. IF PROPERLY IMPLEMENTED,
THE SCHEME COULD REPRESENT A SMALL STEP TOWARD WAGE INCENTIVES
IN BURMA.
OSBORN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 RANGOO 00801 02 OF 02 101305Z

41

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 SAJ-01 SIL-01 OMB-01 SNM-02 DEAE-00

IGA-02 CU-02 EUR-12 AGR-05 COME-00 TRSE-00 CIEP-01

LAB-04 /113 W

----- 070521

R 100945Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1123

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

CINCPAC HI

DEA BANGKOK UNN

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK UNN

AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI UNN

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU UNN

AMCONSUL MANDALAY UNN

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI UNN

USLO PEKING UNN

AMCONSUL UDORN UNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 2 OF 2 RANGOON 0801

5. BURMESE REFUSE U.S. SERVICE SCHOOL COURSE (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

DATT WAS NOTIFIED ON MARCH 8 THAT THE U.S. ARMY COURSES AT FORTS LEAVENWORTH AND BENNING REQUESTED BY THE BURMESE ARMY ON DECEMBER 31, 1975 HAD BEEN TURNED DOWN BY THE BURMESE, QUOTE DUE TO UNAVOIDABLE CIRCUMSTANCES. NEVERTHELESS, WE WISH TO ASSURE YOU OF TAKING THE CHANCE (OFFER) WHEN CIRCUMSTANCES FAVOR UNQUOTE. COMMENT: NOTIFICATION WAS DATED MARCH 6, THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF GENERAL TIN OO'S RESIGNATION. IT IS NOT KNOWN, AT THIS TIME, WHETHER THE RESIGNATION OR THE NEW HIGHER COSTS OF FMS COURSES

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 RANGOO 00801 02 OF 02 101305Z

COULD HAVE BEEN A FACTOR IN THE TURNDOWN.

6. NARCOTICS: SEIZURES (UNCLASSIFIED)

ACCORDING TO LOCAL PAPERS, NINE ARRESTS WERE MADE AND APPROXIMATELY 15,000 KYAT WORTH OF HEROIN SEIZED IN MANDALAY DURING THE PAST WEEK. FIVE WERE ARRESTED IN A SWEEP IN KYAUKME AND AN ADDITIONAL 20 ADDICTS WERE BROUGHT IN FOR TREATMENT. NOT YET ANNOUNCED PUBLICLY, BUT REVEALED TO US BY A SENIOR POLICE OFFICIAL, 154 VISS (252.2 KILOGRAMS) OF RAW OPIUM WAS SEIZED BY POLICE OFFICIALS IN TAUNGGYI.

7. NARCOTICS: TRAINING (UNCLASSIFIED)

POLICE OFFICIALS HAVE INFORMED THE EMBASSY THAT ONE OF THE KEY ANTI-NARCOTICS POLICE OFFICERS IN RANGOON, U THA U, RECENTLY COMPLETED A 45 DAY TRAINING COURSE IN GENEVA SPONSORED BY THE UN.

8. NARCOTICS: POPPY DESTRUCTION (UNCLASSIFIED)

MARCH 9 NEWSPAPER ARTICLE UPDATED PREVIOUS REPORTING ON ACREAGE OF POPPIES UPROOTED (RANGOON 667). ACREAGE NOW TOTALS 8,159 ACRES; 7,357 IN SHAN STATE, 636 IN THE CHIN HILLS, 111 IN KACHIN STATE AND 55 IN KAYAH STATE.

9. NARCOTICS: VIOLENT CRIME CONNECTED TO NARCOTICS (UNCLASSIFIED)

WHILE ALLUDED TO IN THE PAST, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MISSION'S MEMORY, HEROIN ADDICTION WAS CITED IN RECENT NEWSPAPER ARTICLE AS DIRECTLY RELATED TO A MURDER/ROBBERY. THE ARTICLE STATED THAT FIVE HEROIN ADDICTS WERE ARRESTED FOR THE MURDER OF A RECORDING SHOP OWNER AND THE ROBBERY OF AN EXPENSIVE TAPE RECORDER. THREE OF THE FIVE HAVE CONFESSED TO THE CRIME.

10. MEDIA CONTINUE EMPHASIS ON ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGN (UNCLAS)

EDITORIALISTS AND COLUMNISTS CONTINUE TO PLAY UP AND SUPPORT GUB'S ACTIONS AGAINST OPIUM AND HEROIN TRAFFICKERS. GUARDIAN EDITORIALIZED: "THAT BURMA HAS BEEN MENTIONED IN THE INTERNATIONAL

NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD REPORT IS NO ACCIDENT. THE SO-CALLED GOLDEN TRIANGLE OR TRI-BORDER AREA HAS GEOGRAPHY IDEAL FOR POPPY CULTIVATION AND BURMA'S ASSOCIATION WITH THE ORIGIN OF NARCOTIC LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 RANGOO 00801 02 OF 02 101305Z

DRUGS HAS ALWAYS POSED A THORN IN THE SIDE OF THOSE CONSCIENTIOUS ENOUGH TO WISH AND ACT TO REMOVE THE SCOURGE". AMONG OTHER NEWS ITEMS OF DRUG SEIZURES AND POPPY ERADICATION, NEWSPAPERS AND BBS HIGHLIGHTED A USIS RELEASE QUOTING DEA OFFICIAL JOHN CUSACK PRAISING BURMA'S EFFORTS TO ERADICATE POPPY PLANTS AND TO INTERDICT OPIUM SUPPLY CARAVANS BEFORE THE UN NARCOTICS AND DRUG COMMISSION. THE MEDIA'S WIDE REPORTING OF DRUG SUPPRESSION AND EDITORIALS IN SUPPORT OF GUB ACTIVITIES TOGETHER WITH THE ADMISSION FOR THE FIRST TIME THAT MUCH OF THE OPIUM TRADE ORIGINATES IN BURMA, SHOW AN INCREASED DETERMINATION BY GUB TO TAKE SIGNIFICANT ACTIONS TO DETER ILLEGAL NARCOTICS.

11. INFORMATION MINISTRY AGREES TO FRG AND GDR CULTURAL EXCHANGES (UNCLASSIFIED)

MINISTER OF INFORMATION U LWIN HAS AGREED TO ALLOW EDITORS FROM GUB NEWSPAPERS TO VISIT GDR AND FRG UNDER INVITATIONS EXTENDED ABOUT THREE MONTHS AGO. THESE ARE THE FIRST CULTURAL EXCHANGES APPROVED BY U LWIN SINCE TAKING OVER THE MINISTRY. OTHER EMBASSIES ARE HOPEFUL THAT THESE ACTIONS INDICATE THE GENERAL SLOWDOWN IN OBTAINING DECISIONS IS BEGINNING TO IMPROVE.

12. AGRICULTURE NOTES (UNCLASSIFIED)

SUGARCANE PRODUCTION FOR 1975-76 CROP YEAR NOW ESTIMATED AT 1.2 MILLION TONS, SOMEWHAT LOWER THAN EARLIER ESTIMATES OF 1.8 MILLION TONS. PRODUCTION LAST YEAR WAS 1.1 MILLION TONS. TARGET FOR REFINED SUGAR REMAINS 76,000 TONS (WEEK 8, ITEM 9). COTTON COLLECTION TARGET FOR THIS YEAR SET AT 1.3 MILLION VISS (1 VISS EQUALS 3.6 LBS.) AS COMPARED WITH 800,000 VISS COLLECTED LAST YEAR. BLACKMARKET MARKET PRICES REPORTED ONLY SLIGHTLY HIGHER THAN GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT PRICE OF K4 TO K5.50 PER VISS. GOVERNMENT RUBBER COLLECTIONS IN TENASSERIM AREA ARE ONLY ABOUT 30 PERCENT OF TARGETED FIGURES AS OPPOSED TO ABOUT 50 PERCENT OF TARGET COLLECTED LAST YEAR. THIS PROBABLY INDICATES INCREASED SMUGGLING ACTIVITY IN SOUTHERN BURMA. OSBORN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WAGES, DRUG CONTROL, POLITICAL SUMMARIES, PERSONNEL RESIGNATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MartinML
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976RANGOO00801
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760090-0896
From: RANGOON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760375/aaaacogu.tel
Line Count: 269
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MartinML
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 MAY 2004 by woolflhd>; APPROVED <15 SEP 2004 by MartinML>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JOINT WEEKA #10
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, BM, (TIN OO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006